

Smoke Free Workplaces in Indiana

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Making your workplace smoke free will lower your business costs and produce a healthier workforce! The health of your employees is the major factor in your bottom line. Tobacco use among Hoosiers is a burden for Indiana and your business.

When employees smoke, they are not the only ones who pay. Increased medical costs, higher insurance rates, added maintenance expenses, lower productivity, and higher rates of absenteeism from smoking costs American businesses between \$97 and \$125 billion every year.

Protect one of your most important assets - your employees' health. Eliminating tobacco use in the workplace projects a positive image to the public and demonstrates pride in your business and the products and services your company delivers.

Many of Indiana's large employers are smoke free¹. What about you?

Of the top ten largest employers from each county in Indiana, 84% have completely smoke free indoor work areas. However, one third (32%) of these large employers have smoke free grounds.

Benefits of a smoke free workplace

- ❖ Improvement in employee and visitor health
- ❖ Lower absenteeism and increased productivity
- ❖ Employee support for non-smoking policies
- ❖ Reduced liability of claims
- ❖ Lower maintenance costs
- ❖ Lower insurance premiums

Helping employees quit smoking also saves employers money!

Providing cessation services to employees through onsite employee assistance programs or through health plans can save businesses even more.

However, less than half of Indiana's large employers provide cessation through their worksite (49%) and even fewer offer benefits through employer-provided health plans (39%).

¹ Top Ten Employer Survey (web-based) – completed by ITPC community and minority partners, May 2008. (Represents data from 78 counties and 589 employers.)